TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 6, 1984 -- Railroad piggyback traffic has set two records for the third straight year, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

The AAR said the number of trailers and/or containers carried through 47 weeks of 1984 was 4,144,846, topping the 52-week record of 4,078,454 set last year. So far this year, loadings of trailers and/or containers are running 12.6 percent ahead of last year's pace.

At the same time, the AAR noted that cumulative piggyback carloadings topped last year's record a week ago. The record set in all of 1983 was 2,388,527 and so far this year 2,430,193 piggyback cars have been loaded, 14.8 percent ahead of 1983.

Piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 24 totaled 42,935 cars, up 11.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 67,517 trailers and/or containers, 4.0 percent higher than last year.

Meanwhile, the AAR reported that overall freight traffic on U.S. railroads during the week ended December 1 totaled an estimated 17.6 billion ton-miles, 3.5 percent above the corresponding week a year ago.

Carloadings in the week ended December 1 totaled 388,522, up 1.4 percent from last year, and 29.4 percent above the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 3.1 percent in the South and 6.8 percent in the West, but down 8.1 percent in the East.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/01/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Dec. 1, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,235	I	4,378	16.9	I	5,511	18.2
Other farm products	5,526	I	1,014	22.5	I	1,394	25.2
Metallic ores	14,102	D	1,243	8.1	I	2,219	15.7
Coal	103,145	D	1,598	1.5	I	19,170	18.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,384	I	801	7.6	I	3,118	27.4
Nonmetallic minerals	13,284	I	814	6.5	I	6,243	47.0
Grain mill products	10,647	I	186	1.8	I	2,141	20.1
Food and kindred products	11,801	I	150	1.3	I	3,238	27.4
Primary forest products	13,874	D	1,313	8.6	I	4,648	33.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,318	I	415	6.0	I	2,196	30.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,428	I	370	2.3	I	3,021	18.4
Chemicals and allied products	25,015	D	435	1.7	I	5,412	21.6
Petroleum products	5,162	I	288	5.9	I	1,456	28.2
Stone, clay and glass products	11,008	I	191	1.8	I	2,998	27.2
Coke	5,032	D	1,395	21.7	I	1,162	23.1
Metals and products	8,382	D	1,187	12.4	I	2,465	29.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,318	I	2,509	12.7	I	6,894	30.9
Waste and scrap materials	8,896	I	145	1.7	I	2,574	28.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,658	D	919	10.7	I	2,170	28.3
All other carloads	57,123	I	2,414	4.4	I	10,258	18.0
LCL traffic	184	D	55	23.0	I	49	26.6
Total Cars Loaded	388,522	I	5,530	1.4	I	88,337	29.4
Corresponding week of 1983	382,992						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded* (48 weeks)	18,870,385	17,483,685	I 7.9

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

47 weeks ended November 24	835.5	751.8	I 11.1
Week ended December 1	17.6	17.0	I 3.5
48 weeks cumulative	853.1	768.8	I 11.0

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